

**Annex to Form PCT/ISA/206
COMMUNICATION RELATING TO THE RESULTS
OF THE PARTIAL INTERNATIONAL SEARCH**

International Application No
PCT/US2004/009044

1. The present communication is an Annex to the invitation to pay additional fees (Form PCT/ISA/206). It shows the results of the international search established on the parts of the international application which relate to the invention first mentioned in claims Nos.:
- see 'Invitation to pay additional fees'
2. This communication is not the international search report which will be established according to Article 18 and Rule 43.
3. If the applicant does not pay any additional search fees, the information appearing in this communication will be considered as the result of the international search and will be included as such in the international search report.
4. If the applicant pays additional fees, the international search report will contain both the information appearing in this communication and the results of the international search on other parts of the international application for which such fees will have been paid.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 410 048 B1 (FOTINOS SPIROS) 25 June 2002 (2002-06-25)	1-4, 6-8
Y	column 3, line 52 - line 64; figures 7a, 7b	5
A	the whole document	51-62
Y	FR 2 709 288 A (SIEMENS MATSUSHITA COMPONENTS) 3 March 1995 (1995-03-03) abstract; figures 2, 3	5
X	WO 99/17738 A (LAVIPHARM LAB INC) 15 April 1999 (1999-04-15)	1-4, 6-8
A	the whole document	51-62
A	DE 804 885 C (BERNHARD ZAMEK) 4 May 1951 (1951-05-04) the whole document	1-8, 51-62
A	EP 0 559 440 A (FOUR LAKES LABEL & PRINTING) 8 September 1993 (1993-09-08) the whole document	1-8, 51-62

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Patent Family Annex

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2004/009044

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6410048	B1	25-06-2002	FR 2770843 A1	14-05-1999
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This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-8, 51-62

A device for holding an active agent-containing composition, the device comprising:

- a support substrate;
 - a pattern of adhesive in contact with one side of the substrate; and
 - an array of discrete film segments removably attached to the substrate by contact with the adhesive, each film segment including the active agent-containing composition.
- A method for holding an active agent-containing composition, the method comprising:

- providing a substrate, one side of the substrate in contact with a pattern of adhesive;
 - removably attaching a film including an active agent-containing composition to the substrate; and
 - segmenting the film attached to the final support substrate into an array of discrete film segments.
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2. claims: 9-50, 63-91

A device for holding a composition, the device comprising:

- a support substrate;
- an array of discrete film segments removably attached to the substrate, each film segment including the composition.
- a sealing material covering the array of discrete film segments, the sealing material reattachably adhering to one side of the substrate, and where a selected portion of the sealing material includes a non stick coating.

A method for holding a composition, the method comprising: superposing a sealing material over the array of discrete film segments attached to the support substrate, the sealing material including a non-stick coating on at least a portion of the sealing material, and where the non-stick coating reduces adhesion between the surface of the sealing material and at least one film segment when the sealing material contacts the at least one film segment.

3. claims: 92-103

A method for holding an active agent-containing composition, the method comprising:

- providing a substrate;
- forming a plurality of blister cavities in the substrate
- covering the substrate with the active agent-containing composition film;
- displacing segments of the film into each blister cavity;
- removing the film unassociated with the film segments;
- superposing a sealing material in contact with the substrate and covering the film segments; and
- attaching the sealing material at a plurality of points where the sealing material and substrate are in contact.

4. claims: 104-111

A method for applying a composition in a dosage unit to a dermal surface of a patient comprising:

- providing the dosage unit including the composition on a side that is larger in area than the dosage unit;
- holding the substrate without touching the dosage unit;
- bringing the substrate towards the dermal surface of the patient to bring the dosage unit into contact with the dermal surface; and
- pressing against the substrate to apply the composition to the dermal surface.

5. claims: 112-117

A method for holding an active agent-containing composition, the method comprising:

- intermittently applying a solution containing an active agent-containing composition to a substrate; and
- drying the intermittently applied solution to form film segments that are removably attached to the substrate

The common technical features between groups of inventions 1 and 2 to 5 are "a device for holding a composition, the device comprising: a support substrate and an array of discrete film segments containing such composition; and a method of holding a composition, the method comprising: providing a support substrate, removably attaching a film containing such a composition" as defined by claim 1 and 51. These features are known in the prior art, see document US6410048 (additionally see any other document in the Search Report).

The potential special technical features are,

for group of inventions 1 (claims 1-8, 51-62): a device comprising a pattern of adhesive in contact with one side of the substrate; and the array of discrete film segments removably attached to the substrate by contact with the adhesive. The method comprising, providing one side of the substrate in contact with a pattern of adhesive, the film being in contact with the adhesive, and segmenting the film attached to the final

support substrate into an array of discrete film segments.

for group of inventions 2 (claims 9-50, 63-91): a comprising a sealing material covering the array of discrete film segments, the sealing material reattachably adhering to one side of the substrate, and where a selected portion of the sealing material includes a non stick coating. A method comprising superposing a sealing material over the array of discrete film segments attached to the support substrate, the sealing material including a non-stick coating on at least a portion of the sealing material.

for group of inventions 3 (claims 92-103): a method comprising forming a plurality of blister cavities in the substrate, covering the substrate with the composition film, displacing segments of the film into each blister cavity, removing the film unassociated with the film segments, superposing a sealing material in contact with the substrate and covering the film segments and attaching the sealing material at a plurality of points where the sealing material and substrate are in contact.

for group of inventions 4 (claims 104-111): a method for applying a composition in a dosage unit to a dermal surface of a patient comprising: providing the dosage unit including the composition on a side that is larger in area than the dosage unit, holding the substrate without touching the dosage unit, bringing the substrate towards the dermal surface of the patient to bring the dosage unit into contact with the dermal surface, and pressing against the substrate to apply the composition to the dermal surface.

for group of inventions 5 (claims 112-117): a method comprising intermittently applying a solution containing an active agent-containing composition to a substrate, and drying the intermittently applied solution to form film segments that are removably attached to the substrate.

Furthermore the special technical features solve entirely different problems.

The device and method in group 1 is provided with an array of film segments containing the composition which are attached to the substrate by an adhesive pattern and manufactured as a lamination of substrate, adhesive and discrete film segments. This solves the problem of having a simpler to manufacture package.

The device and method in group 2 is provided with a sealing material covering the array of discrete film segments and including a non-stick coating. This solves the problem of protecting the array of film segments from the environment and at the same time providing an easy to open package.

The method in group 3 comprises the additional steps of making a blister cavity, forming discrete film segments, from a large composition containing film, into the cavities and sealing the cavities with sealing material. The problem solved is that of having individual film containing cavities sealed off from the environment.